

# Safe Sling Loading

Dear Editor,

Sling loading an M119A1 howitzer can be tricky and dangerous business, especially when it comes to locking the sling chains in place on the wheel hubs.

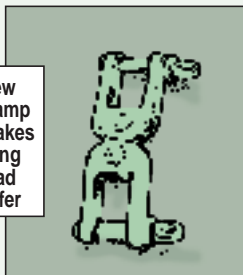
FM 10-450-4, Multiservice Helicopter Sling Load: Single-Point Load Rigging Procedures, tells you to lock the chains in place by tying the links together with 1/2-in tubular nylon rope.

Unfortunately, the rope can come untied. It can also stretch and let the chains slip off the hub. Then it's raining howitzers!

We found a clamp that works much better than nylon rope. It's made of steel so there's no stretching and it locks into the hub groove, eliminating any chance of slippage. The clamp can be used for both 10,000-lb and 25,000-lb sling loads.

There is no NSN for the clamp yet, so you have to order it on a DD Form 1348-6 using CAGE code 1CXX6 and part number (PN) 50156-HD08.

New clamp makes sling load safer



Steel clamp won't stretch and locks inside hub groove



Each clamp costs about \$22, but you get a discount by ordering larger quantities. For details, contact the manufacturer, Suncor Stainless, at (781) 829-8899 or e-mail them at:

sales@suncorstainless.com

You can also buy the clamps over the Internet using a government credit card. Go to:

<http://www.suncorstainless.com>

and click on Rigging. Then click on Heavy Duty Jaw & Jaw Swivel.

Enter the quantity of clamps you want under PN 50156-HD08, click on CLICK TO BUY, and follow the rest of the instructions.

SFC Mark A. Lee  
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FROM THE DEER OF THE EDITOR

Good job! The clamp has been approved for use by the US Army Soldier Systems Center (Natick), the Quartermaster School and Tank-automotive and Armaments Command-Rock Island. It will eventually be added to FM 10-450-4 and the M119A1's TM 9-1015-252-20.

THAT LUCKY DUCK HAS GOT IT MADE!  
I WISH WE GOT FREE TRANSPORTATION!

MAYBE WE CAN HITCH A RIDE!

HOP ON, GUYS! MY NEW SLING HAS GOT ME SAFE AND SNUG!